

From: Teri Driscoll

Sent: Monday, January 14, 2008 4:11 PM

To: Chris Goforth

Subject: Sutter County Election Observer Panel.doc

Sutter County Election Observer Panel

I. County and System Information

- | | | |
|-------------------------|---|---|
| 1. Name of County | - | Sutter County |
| 2. Name of Contact | - | Chris Goforth |
| 3. Contact's Phone | - | 530-822-7122 |
| 4. Vendor/Voting System | - | Sequoia Voting System, paper ballots w/1 DRE per precinct |
| 5. Date of Election | - | February 5, 2008 |

II. Puurpose

The purpose of an Election Observer Panel is to:

1. Provide an avenue for public observation of and input into the election process.
2. Assist in ensuring the integrity of the election process.
3. Encourage participation and build voter confidence in the election process.

III. Invite

Between E-60 and E-30, prepare letters of invitation to the following:

1. County Grand Jury
2. Political Party Central Committee Members
3. Advocacy of Groups
4. League of Women Voters
5. Media

Other groups of individuals expressing an interest in observing Election Day activities may also be included in the observer panel.

Note: You might want to consider offering meet with groups to provide an opportunity for the group members to ask questions about the process.

IV. Appointment Letters (for introduction to precinct workers)

After the groups have provided the names of interested panelists, prepare letters of introduction for the panelist to use when visiting polling places on election day. Materials to be prepared for each panelist will include a listing of all polling places within Sutter County for the February 5, 2008 Statewide Primary Election, as well as the central counting site location and hours of operation.

V. Mechanism for Feedback

Consider providing observers with a checklist and/or questionnaires to be completed and returned to you.

General Rules for Observers

Observers may:

- Observe the proceedings at the polls, including the opening and closing procedures.
- Obtain information from the precinct index that is posted near the entrance.
- Make notes and watch all procedures.
- View all activities at the central counting site on Election Day.
- View the canvass of the vote activities following the election.
- View absentee and provisional ballot processing.
- Ask questions of staff or voters at the polls.
- Ask questions of supervisors at the central counting site.

Observers are responsible for:

- Checking in at each site, whether polling place or central counting site.
- Wearing an identification badge.
- Maintaining a professional manner while observing the election processes.
- Ensuring they do not interfere with the elections process.

Observers may not”

- Interfere in any way with the conduct of the election.
- Touch any voting materials or equipment or sit at the official worktables.
- Converse with voters (within 100 feet of the entrance to a polling place) regarding the casting of a vote, or speak to a voter regarding his or her qualifications to vote.
- Display any election material or wear campaign badges, buttons or apparel.
- Wear the uniform of a peace officer, a private guard, or security personnel.
- Use cellular phones, pagers, or two-way radios inside the polling place and/or within 100 feet of the entrance to the polling place.
- Talk to central counting site workers while they are processing ballots.
- Use the telephones, computers or other polling place facilities at polling places or the central counting site.
- Touch election personnel.
- Eat or drink in the polls or the central counting site.
- Assist in operations at any polling place.

Dear XXXX:

The Sutter County Department of Elections will convene an Election Observer Panel to observe activities associated with the Statewide Presidential Primary Election, which will be held on February 5, 2008.